

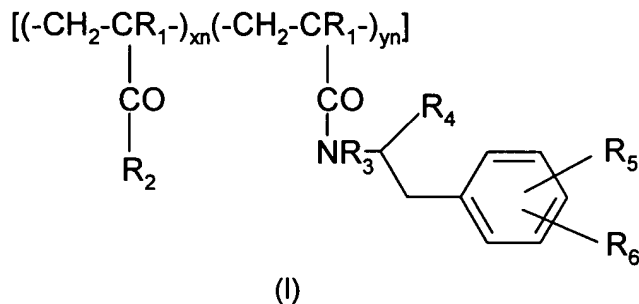
Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as set forth hereinafter.

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Polyacrylamide conjugate of the general formula I,



wherein

R₁ denotes hydrogen or methyl,

R₂ denotes N(R₇R₈) or OH,

R₃ denotes a hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl,

R₄ denotes H or COO⁻M⁺,

R₅, R₆ denote, in each case independently of one another a hydrogen, SO₃⁻M⁺ or OSO₃⁻M⁺,

R_7, R_8 denote, in each case independently of one another, hydrogen, C_{1-6} alcohol, C_{1-6} alkyl, phenyl, benzyl, phenethyl or $N(R_7R_8)$ denotes a $N(CH_2)_{2-6}$ ring that may also be substituted,

n is 20 to 500,

y is from 0.2 to 1.0,

x is $1 - y$,

M^+ is a physiologically acceptable monovalent cation $[[.]]$.

and their diastereomers or enantiomers in the form of their acids or salts of physiologically compatible bases.

2.(Original) Polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1, characterized in that R_1 denotes hydrogen.

3.(Currently Amended) Polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 or 2, characterized in that R_2 denotes $N(R_7R_8)$.

4. (Currently Amended) Polyacrylamide conjugate ~~according to any of claims 1 to 3~~ of claim 1, characterized in that R_3 denotes hydrogen.

5. (Currently Amended) Polyacrylamide conjugate ~~according to any of claims 1 to 4~~ of claim 1, characterized in that R_4 denotes COO^-M^+ .

6. (Currently Amended) Polyacrylamide conjugate ~~according to any of claims 1 to 5~~ of claim 1, characterized in that R_6 is hydrogen and R_5 is SO_3M^+ or OSO_3M^+ in the meta or para position, preferably in the para position, most preferably R_5 is OSO_3M^+ in the para position.
7. (Currently Amended) Polyacrylamide conjugate ~~according to any of claims 1 to 5~~ of claim 1, characterized in that R_5 and R_6 both denote hydrogen.
8. (Currently Amended) Polyacrylamide conjugate ~~according to any of claims 1 to 7~~ of claim 1, characterized in that R_7 is hydrogen and R_8 is a C_{1-6} alcohol, preferably a C_{1-4} alcohol, most preferably ethyl alcohol.
9. (Currently Amended) Polyacrylamide conjugate ~~according to any of claims 1 to 8~~ of claim 1, characterized in that the counterion M^+ is selected from the group of Na^+ , K^+ , NH_4^+ , Et_3NH^+ , $\text{HO}(\text{CH}_2)\text{NH}_3^+$.
10. (Currently Amended) Polyacrylamide conjugate ~~according to any of claims 1 to 9~~ of claim 1, characterized in that n is 20 to 400, preferably 20 to 300, more preferably 20 to 100, most preferably about 20 to 80.
11. (Currently Amended) Polyacrylamide conjugate ~~according to any of claims 1 to 10~~ of claim 1, characterized in that y is 0.2 to 0.8, preferably 0.3 to 0.6, more preferably 0.3 to 0.5, most preferably 0.35 to 0.45.
12. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a polyacrylamide conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 11~~ Method for inhibiting P-selectin *in vitro* comprising administering the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 to a cell in a P-selectin inhibiting effective amount.
13. (Currently Amended) ~~A method~~ Method for protecting endothelial cells from complement-mediated cytotoxicity comprising ~~the addition of~~ administering a polyacrylamide conjugate ~~according to any of claims 1 to 11~~ of claim 1 to said cells *in vitro*.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~Polyacrylamide~~ A pharmaceutical composition comprising the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient according to any of claims 1 to 11 for use as a medicament.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a polyacrylamide conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 11 for the preparation of a medicament~~ Method for protecting endothelial cells from complement-mediated cytotoxicity comprising administering to said endothelial cells the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 in a complement-mediated cytotoxicity protecting amount.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a polyacrylamide conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 11 for the preparation of a medicament~~ Method for the prevention and/or treatment of preventing and/or treating inflammatory reactions towards endothelial cells, preferably endothelial cells involved in arteriosclerosis or chronic heart failure comprising administering to an animal in need thereof the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 in an inflammatory reactions towards endothelial cells preventing and/or treating amount.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a polyacrylamide conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 11 for the preparation of a medicament~~ Method for preventing ischemia/reperfusion damage comprising administering to an animal in need thereof the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 in an ischemia/reperfusion damage preventing amount.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a polyacrylamide conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 11 for the preparation of a medicament~~ Method for the treatment of cardiac or brain infarction comprising administering to an animal in need thereof the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 in a cardiac or brain infarction treating amount.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a polyacrylamide conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 11 for the preparation of a medicament~~ Method for preventing damage to organs during surgery-related ischemia comprising administering to an animal in need thereof the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 in a damage to organs during surgery-related ischemia preventing amount.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a polyacrylamide conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 11 for the preparation of a medicament~~ Method for preventing acute vascular rejection reactions comprising administering to an animal in need thereof the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 in an acute vascular rejection reaction preventing amount.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a polyacrylamide conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 11 for the preparation of a medicament~~ Method for preventing acute a vascular rejection reactions reaction in ABO-incompatible transplantation or xenotransplantation comprising administering to an animal in need thereof the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 in an acute vascular rejection reaction preventing amount.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a polyacrylamide conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 11 for the preparation of solutions~~ Method for safe-keeping-of life donor organs for use in transplants comprising
providing a solution comprising the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1, and
adding a life donor organ to said solution.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a polyacrylamide conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 11 for the preparation of a medicament for use in~~ Method for preventing a rejection reaction during allogeneic and xenogeneic islet transplantation comprising administering to an animal in need thereof the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 in a rejection reaction during allogeneic or xenogeneic islet transplantation preventing amount.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a polyacrylamide conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 11 for the preparation of a medicament for use in the prevention and/or treatment of~~ Method for preventing an/or treating an HIV infection comprising administering to an animal in need thereof the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 in an HIV infection preventing and/or treating amount.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a polyacrylamide conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 11 for the preparation of a medicament for use in the prevention and/or treatment of~~ Method for preventing and/or treating severe sepsis, acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), or septic

shock comprising administering to an animal in need thereof the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 in a severe sepsis or septic shock preventing and/or treating amount.

26. (New) Method for preventing and/or treating acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) comprising administering to an animal in need thereof the polyacrylamide conjugate of claim 1 in an acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) preventing and/or treating amount.